

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert subtitles beginning at page 1, between lines 3 and 5, as follows:

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

Please insert subtitle beginning at page 1, between lines 7 and 9, as follows:

2. Related Art

Please insert subtitle beginning at page 2, between lines 15 and 17, as follows:

BRIEF SUMMARY

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 21 through page 3, line 3, as follows:

According to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention there is provided a floatable dry dock comprising a lifting cradle having two spaced arms pivotally mounted on a buoyant base, one or more floatation tanks interconnecting the arms, and a platform mounted on the arms, and platform support means operable to ensure that the platform remains horizontal when the arms pivot about their pivotal attachment to the base.

Please insert subtitle beginning at page 4, between lines 15 and 17, as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert subtitle beginning at page 5, between lines 4 and 6, as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 2, as follows:

Each lifting cradle 11 comprises two arms 15 pivotally mounted on pivotal mountings ~~46-12(a)~~ in sidewalls ~~47~~ of the base ~~44~~12. The pivots ~~46-(12(a))~~ are located on an axis between the two hulls of the catamaran base 12 that extends in a direction along the length of the hulls of the base. The arms 15 are made of a lightweight marine alloy or steel construction and are of an arcuate shape and have elongate buoyancy tanks 16 to 20 (shown dotted) extending between the two arms 15 to define a part-cylindrical cradle 11, which when lowered (as will be explained later), enables the vessel 14 to be floated in from one end of the cradle 11.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 11, as follows:

The tanks 16 to 20 have means for selectively flooding the tanks 16 to 20 with water in sequence to cause the cradle 11 to submerge and cause the arms 15 to pivot about pivots ~~46-12(a)~~ and become submerged. The tanks are connected to a source 24 of compressed air whereby they can be purged of water and filled with compressed air to vary the buoyancy of the cradle 11. The arms 15 may also incorporate buoyancy tanks (now shown).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 18, as follows:

The arms 15 have a platform support means in the form of an arcuate track 26 running along, and adjacent to, the concave edge of the arms 15 for supporting a lifting platform 22. The lifting platform 22 has wheels 25 at each lateral extremity (see Figure 2) that run in the tracks 26. The

shape of the arcuate tracks 26, and the position of the wheels 25 on the platform 22, is arranged so that the platform 22 remains stable and horizontal as the arms 15 rotate about the pivotal means ~~16~~12(a).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 22 through page 8, line 6, as follows:

With the vessel 14 in place above the platform 22, the tanks 16 to 20 are sequentially purged of water by pumping in compressed air to increase the buoyancy of the cradle 11 in a controlled manner. Firstly, tank 16 is supplied with compressed air then tank 17 followed in sequence by the tanks 18, 19, and 20. This causes the arms 15 to rise by pivoting about the pivotal connection ~~16~~12(a). The upward movement of the arms 15 from a submerged position as shown in the left hand side of Figure 1 towards the position shown in the right hand side of Figure 1 is continued until the vessel 14 is lifted clear of the water surface 28.

Please amend subtitle beginning at page 11, line 1, as follows:

~~Claims~~WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: